

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 are presently pending in this case. Claims 1-4 are amended and new Claims 5-16 are added by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1-4 and new Claims 5-16 are supported by the original disclosure,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Dworkin (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20020071540) in view of Dailey et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,363,352, hereinafter “Dailey”) and further in view of Takagi et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20020002584, hereinafter “Takagi”).

The outstanding rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites in part “an acquiring unit configured to acquire reservation information, sent by the first terminal, to the information processing server from a reservation data base in order to provide the first service, ***the reservation information including an Internet webpage address of a user of the first terminal.***”

Dworkin describes an application service provider (ASP) for providing a conferencing environment.² The outstanding Office Action cited paragraphs 15, 23, 25, and 27 of Dworkin as describing “an acquiring unit” as recited in Claim 1.³ Paragraph 26 of Dworkin describes that a purchaser of conference room time may identify at the time of purchase: the video chat room name and size, password, bandwidth, environment, and video and sound quality of the conference. However, it is respectfully submitted that Dworkin does not describe an acquiring unit configured to acquire reservation information including ***an Internet webpage***

¹See, e.g. the original claims, the specification at page 24, line 3 to page 28, line 9, and Figure 10.

²See Dworkin, abstract.

³See the outstanding Office Action at page 3, lines 4-7.

address of the user of the first terminal. At most, paragraph 28 of Dworkin describes that a website of the ***ASP***, not either of the users 106, 108, is provided to a customer.

With respect to Dailey, column 10, lines 10-18 and column 14, lines 33-39, at most describe that the host computer knows the ***IP addresses*** of all participating computers. As the IP address of a participating computer is very different than the Internet webpage address of the user of that computer, it is respectfully submitted Dailey does not teach or suggest the above quoted feature either.

Finally, with regard to Takagi, paragraph 93 of Takagi describes that a message of conference information simply includes the name of the conference, start time, member name list, “and the like.” Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Takagi also fails to teach or suggest an acquiring unit configured to acquire reservation information including ***an Internet webpage address of the user of the first terminal.*** Consequently, amended Claim 1 is patentable over Dworkin in view of Dailey and further in view of Takagi.

Amended Claims 2-4 recite in part “acquiring reservation information, sent by the first terminal, to the information processing apparatus from a reservation data base in order to provide the first service, ***the reservation information including an Internet webpage address of a user of the first terminal.***”

As noted above, Dworkin only describes providing a website of the ASP, not of the users 106, 108. Further, Dailey only describes providing IP addresses of all participating computers. Finally, Takagi also fails to teach or suggest acquiring reservation information including an Internet webpage address of a user of the first terminal. Consequently, amended Claims 2-4 are also patentable over Dworkin in view of Dailey and further in view of Takagi.

New Claims 5-16 are supported at least by original Claims 1-4, the specification at page 24, line 3 to page 28, line 9, and Figure 10. New Claim 5 recites in part:

an acquiring unit configured to acquire reservation information sent by the first terminal to the information

processing server, the reservation information including an Internet webpage address of a user of the first terminal;

a reservation providing unit configured to provide the reservation information to the plurality of second terminals;

a generation unit configured to generate a group chat room corresponding to the reservation information; and

a chat room providing unit configured to provide the group chat room to the first terminal and the plurality of second terminals coincident with the first service, the plurality of second terminals accessing the group chat room and first service.

As noted above, the outstanding Office Action cited paragraphs 15, 23, 25, and 27 of Dworkin as describing “an acquiring unit” as recited in Claim 1.⁴ However, Dworkin does not describe an acquiring unit configured to acquire reservation information including ***an Internet webpage address of the user of the first terminal***. At most, paragraph 28 of Dworkin describes that a website of the *ASP*, not either of the users 106, 108, is provided to a customer. Consequently, new Claim 5 (and Claims 6-10 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Dworkin in view of Dailey and further in view of Takagi.

New Claim 11 recites in part “acquiring reservation information sent by the first terminal to the information processing server, the reservation information including an Internet webpage address of a user of the first terminal.”

As noted above, none of Dworkin, Dailey, and Takagi teach or suggest acquiring reservation information including an Internet webpage address of the user of the first terminal. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that none of Dworkin, Dailey, and Takagi teach or suggest “acquiring” as defined in new Claim 11. Consequently, new Claim 11 (and Claims 12-16 dependent therefrom) is also patentable over Dworkin, Dailey, and Takagi.

⁴See the outstanding Office Action at page 3, lines 4-7.

Application No. 10/067,310
Reply to Office Action of December 14, 2007

Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bradley D. Lytle", is written over a horizontal line.

Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/07)

Edward W. Tracy, Jr.
Registration No. 47,998

I:\ATTY\ET\219204US\219204US-AMD3.14.08.DOC